

Claims

1. (Original) A fastener including:-
 - a longitudinal body;
 - a first work engaging member mounted on the longitudinal body and adapted for movement relative thereto towards a work to be engaged;
 - a second work engaging member associated with the longitudinal body; and
 - means on the longitudinal body for adjusting position of the first work engaging member on the longitudinal body,
- the second work engaging member including means capable of assuming a first position of narrow cross-sectional area and a second position of wide cross-sectional area.
2. (Original) The fastener of Claim 1, wherein the first work engaging member is a pressure foot mounted on the longitudinal body and adapted to be urged towards work surfaces which are to be trapped between the first work engaging member and the second work engaging member.
3. (Previously Amended) The fastener of Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the second work engaging member is mounted on or attached to or integral with the longitudinal body.
4. (Previously Amended) The fastener of Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the second work engaging member is integral with, or joined to, the first work engaging member.
5. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein the means capable of assuming the first and second positions includes wings or leaves.
6. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein the position adjusting means includes ratchet teeth and a pawl.
7. (Original) The fastener of Claim 6, wherein the ratchet teeth are on the longitudinal body.
8. (Previously Amended) The fastener of Claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the pawl is formed integrally with the first work engaging means.
9. (Previously Amended) The fastener ~~as claimed in~~ of Claim 8, wherein the first work engaging member, the second work engaging member and the pawl element are made in one piece or are in a fixed spatial relationship.

10. (Previously Amended) The fastener ~~as claimed in any one~~ of Claims 1 ~~to 8~~, wherein the second work engaging member is connected to or integral with the longitudinal body.
- 5 11. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 10~~, which includes means for attaching one or more elements.
12. (Original) The fastener of Claim 11, wherein a cable tie is integrated with the first work engaging member.
13. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 12~~ when mounted in or formed with a feeder strip.
- 10 14. (Previously Amended) A method of fastening work surfaces using the fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 13~~, the method including the steps of:
 - inserting the second work engaging member into an aperture in the work surfaces;
 - 15 causing the means included in the second work engaging member to assume the second position of wide cross-sectional area;
 - using the position adjusting means to cause the first work engaging member to move on the longitudinal body towards the work surfaces so that the work surfaces are held in desired contact between the first and second work engaging members; and
 - 20 optionally removing substantially all of the longitudinal body accessible beyond the first work engaging member and the position changing means.
- 25 15. (Previously Amended) A method of removing the fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 13~~ from work surfaces fastened by the fastener, the method including the steps of:
 - causing the second work engaging member to assume the first position of narrow cross-sectional area; and
 - withdrawing the fastener from the aperture in the work surfaces.
16. (Original) A fastener including:
 - 30 a first longitudinal body having first engaging means; and
 - a second longitudinal body having:
 - an opening adapted to receive the first longitudinal body; and

second engaging means in at least part of the opening;

wherein the first and/or second engaging means is adapted to deform sufficiently to permit the first longitudinal body to slide axially through the opening in the second longitudinal body and wherein the second engaging means is adapted to engage the first engaging means on the first longitudinal body when one longitudinal body is rotated relatively to the other.

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17. (Original) The fastener of Claim 16 which includes means capable of assuming a first position of narrow cross-sectional area and a second position of wide cross-sectional area.
 18. (Original) The fastener of Claim 17, in which the means capable of assuming the first and second position is part of or attached to the second longitudinal body.
 19. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 16 ~~to 18~~, in which the first and second engaging means permit unidirectional movement of the first longitudinal body within the second longitudinal body.
 20. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 16 ~~to 19~~, wherein the first longitudinal body includes the first engaging means for some or all of its length.
 21. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 16 ~~to 20~~, wherein the first engaging means is a helical thread or serrations or grooves, each having a shoulder adapted to engage a barb or shoulder in the second engaging means.
 22. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 17 ~~to 21~~ wherein the second longitudinal body is substantially cylindrical and the means capable of assuming the first position of narrow cross-sectional area and the second position of wide cross-sectional area comprises a continuation of the cylinder, the cylinder being partially segmented.
 23. (Original) The fastener of Claim 22, wherein the means are wings hinged to the cylinder.
 24. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 16 ~~to 23~~, wherein the second engaging means takes the form of threads or annular grooves and projections, adapted to deform and increase in cross-sectional area through longitudinal slits cut into the threads or grooves and projections.
 25. (Previously Amended) The fastener of ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 13 or 16 to 24~~, wherein one end of the longitudinal body is adapted to engage an insertion tool and the other end is a probe.

26. (Cancelled) A connecting means adapted to releasably fix a first element and a second element, the connecting means including a locking means movable by activation means between a locked position in which the first element is locked to the second element and an unlocked position in which the first element is released from the second element, wherein the locking means is moveable in a deformable channel having a longitudinal axis and in the first position the locking means prevents deformation of the channel in the region of the locking means and wherein the locking means is at least one rotatable element adapted to be rotatable within the deformable channel about an axis transverse to the longitudinal axis of the deformable channel.
27. (Cancelled) The connecting means of claim 26, wherein the locking means is wedge shaped.
28. (Cancelled) The connecting means of claim 26 or 27 wherein the activation means includes or comprises a magnet or electromagnet.
29. (Cancelled) The connecting means of claim 28, wherein the locking means includes two or more rotatable elements adapted to cause a bar to rise or lower
30. (Cancelled) The connecting means of any one of Claims 26 to 29, which has two or more of the locking means.
31. (Cancelled)
32. (Cancelled)
33. (Cancelled)